



**LOCAL  
ACTION  
SUMMIT**  
3 SEPTEMBER 2021



# UNCCD –

LAND GOVERNANCE & PUTTING NATURE AT THE HEART OF A  
GREEN RECOVERY.

# The Governance Challenge

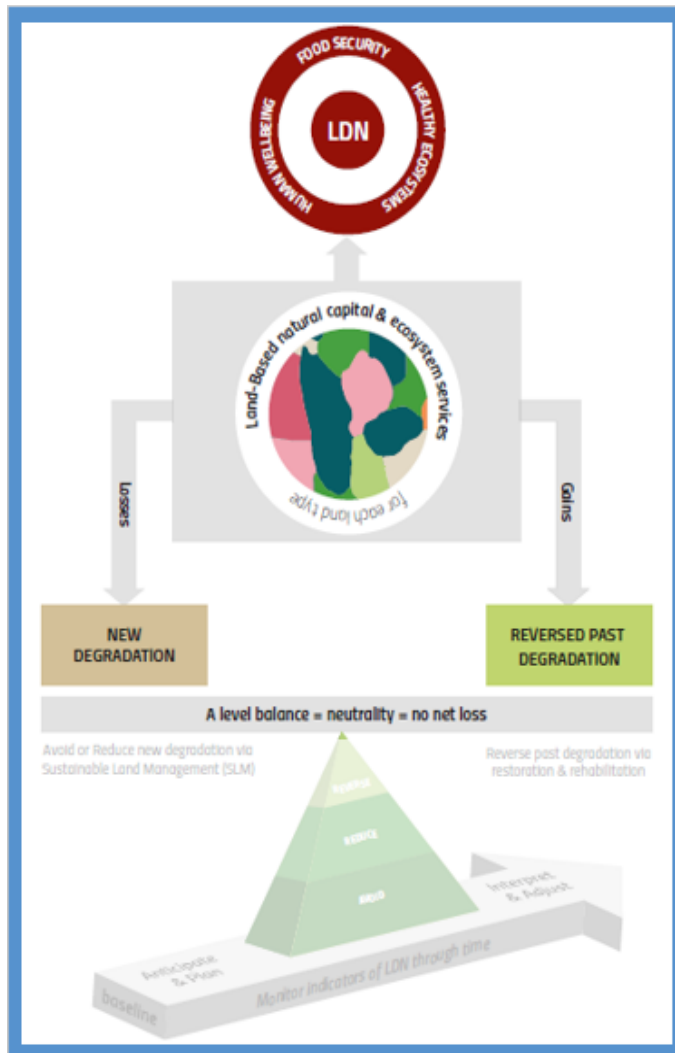
- City life is becoming the default human experience!
- Urban vs. Rural – false dichotomy.
- Land – especially for Build Back Better – matters in all levels of government/governance.

# What system of governance? What role for sub-national?

- Natural resource governance – how the power and responsibilities over natural resources are exercised. How are decisions taken?
- How can citizens – women, men, indigenous peoples and local communities – participate in and benefit from the management of natural resources?
- Importance of sub-national can not be ignored!

# Land Governance/LDN:

- Integrated Land Use Planning
- Land Rights and Tenure



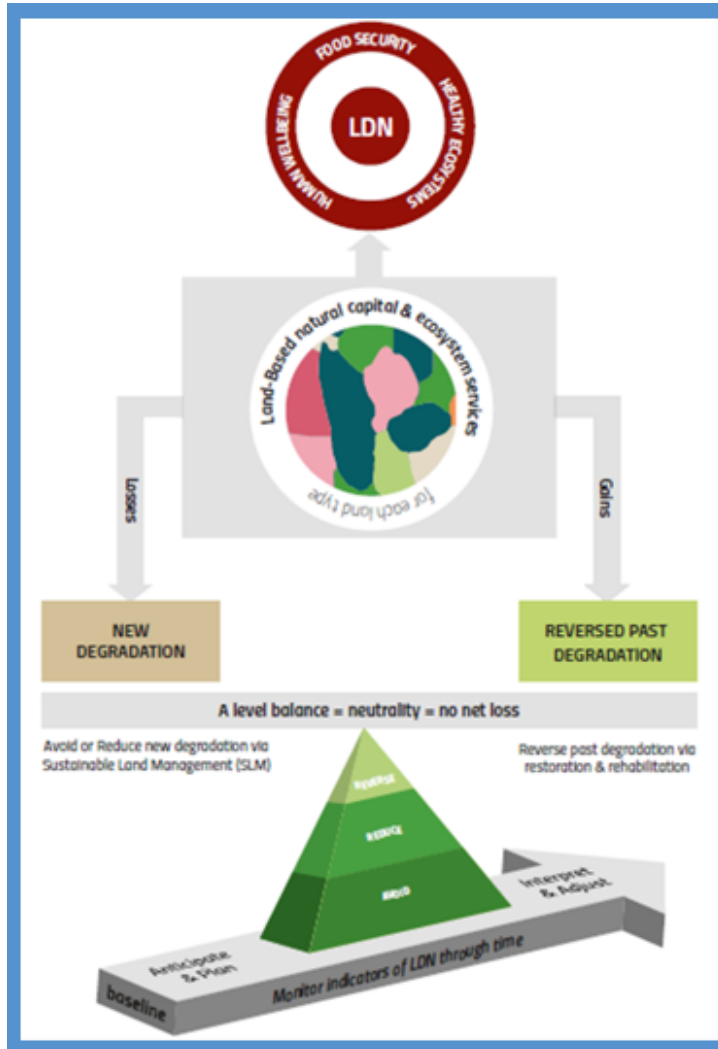
# Integrated land use for LDN

**Neutrality** = no net loss compared to a reference state (baseline) at a defined time

## Mechanism for achieving neutrality:

The idea is aiming at **counterbalancing** future land degradation (**anticipated losses**) through planned measures to **achieve equivalent gains** elsewhere within the same land type

Using the **“like for like” principle**, i.e., counterbalancing losses in one land type with equivalent (or greater) gains in the same land type elsewhere in order to maintain (or exceed) LDN



As part of LDN target setting, planning for LDN involves **anticipating** where **degradation** is likely to take place so that an **optimal mix of interventions** across the landscape to achieve neutrality can be pursued.

*Doing the right thing in the right place at the right scale*

For this purpose, we need to **leverage existing land use planning frameworks** at national/local levels in a way that LDN can become an integral part of them.

Despite great progress in defining LDN baselines and setting LDN targets since 2015, <20% of participating countries actually worked on integrating LDN in their LUP frameworks. **ILUP remains as one of the key missing elements to achieve transformational change at country level and reach LDN by 2030.**

- GEO LDN Initiative competition winner: **LUP4LDN tool**
- **USD 2 mill. EA GEF 7 proposal under development (IUCN, CI, GM):** “Integrating LDN into land use planning frameworks to strengthen national UNCCD enabling environments”



**GEO** LAND DEGRADATION  
NEUTRALITY INITIATIVE

**TEAM! N**

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Our tool, namely LUP4LDN aspires to tackle the challenge of aligning Land Use and Land Management decisions with Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) goals. LUP4LDN integrates LDN into participatory Land Use Planning via a user-friendly interface that allows users to formulate and evaluate Land Use and Land Management transition scenarios, providing visual representations of impacts and trade-offs

TEAM LEADER PYTHAGORAS KARAMPIPERIS  
CEO OF SCIO

# Land and Tenure Rights

- VGGT negotiated under the aegis of the Committee on World Food Security. But in practical terms, we need to go further....
- UNCCD Decision 26/COP14 was groundbreaking – it is the first time a Multilateral Environmental agreement addresses Land RIGHTS.
- Others will follow...



# Pathways for Action

Pathway 1: Creating a legal and policy framework at the national level for the integration of responsible land governance into national measures to implement the objectives of UNCCD and to achieve LDN

Pathway 2: Establishing targeted policy coordination mechanisms at relevant administrative tiers.

Pathway 3: Securing women's use and ownership rights to land for sustainable land use and inclusive development.

Pathway 4: Designing and implementing integrated and participatory land use planning which ensures both the recognition and enjoyment of legitimate land tenure rights and progress towards LDN

Pathway 5: Putting in place accessible grievance and dispute resolution mechanisms in LDN programs which ensure damage prevention and access to remedy.

Pathway 6: Designing land consolidation for LDN

Pathway 7: Acknowledging legitimate tenure rights on public lands that are subject to SLM and land restoration programs.

Pathway 8: Designing tenure rights for the sustainable management of commons.

Pathway 9: Creating incentives for SLM on private lands through responsible land tenure governance.

# Financing

- Pipeline of bankable projects – at sub-national level.
- Private Sector – De-risking/Market Signals – pathway 9.
- Infrastructure investment – Post COVID – green/blue.
- Nature Performance Bonds
- Drought – Resilience – Future Fund

# Case Study: The GGW

- A world changing mosaic of approaches to restore 100 million hectares of degraded land; sequester 250 million tons of carbon and create 10 million green jobs in rural areas.

## Accelerator:

- **Pillar 1**– Investment in small and medium-sized farms and strengthening of value chains, local markets, organization of exports
- **Pillar 2** – Land restoration and sustainable management of ecosystems
- **Pillar 3** – Climate resilient infrastructures and access to renewable energy
- **Pillar 4**– Favourable economic and institutional framework for effective governance, sustainability, stability and security
- **Pillar 5** – Capacity building